Drying lakes in the country

†922. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakes in different parts of the country are drying;

(b) what are the State-wise details of lakes in different parts of the country; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for proper maintenance of these lakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Due to increased human activities like urbanisation and industrialisation, lakes are shrinking. Encroachments, siltation, weed infestation, discharge of domestic sewage, industrial effluents, surface run-off carrying pesticides and fertilisers are among the major threats.

(b) State-wise details of urban lakes identified under the National Lake Conservation Plan and wetlands under the National Wetlands Conservation Scheme are given below:

S.No.	State	NLCP	Wetland Scheme
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	Dal	Wullar, Tisgul Tso & Tso Morari
2.	Chandigarh	Sukhna	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar	—
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Nainital	—
5.	Tamil Nadu	Kodaikanal, Ooty	—

† Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

S.No.	State	NLCP	Wetland Scheme
6.	West Bengal	Raibindra Sarovar	—
7.	Maharashtra	Powai	Ujni
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Hussain Sagar	Kolleru
9.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Sambhar
10.	Himachal Pradesh	—	Renuka, Pong Dam & Chandertal
11.	Punjab	—	Harike, Kanjli & Ropar
12.	Orissa	—	Chilka
13.	Bihar	—	Kabar
14.	Manipur	—	Loktak
15.	Kerala	—	Ashtamudi & Sasthamkota
16.	Gujarat	—	Nalsarovar
17.	Assam	—	Deepar Beel
18.	Tripura	—	Rudrasagar

(c) The scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan covering 10 urban lakes at a total cost of Rs. 637 crore was put up for approval of Government in December, 1997. In view of resource constraints, it was decided to explore the possibility for tie-up of external financial assistance for the scheme. A number of bilateral and multilateral funding agencies were approached, but none evinced interest in the proposal. Under National Wetland Conservation Programme, financial assistance is provided for conservation and management of the identified wetlands.